

Cometale
New York Dec. 31. 1842

Dear Doctor

Oh! let the Old year pass
away & the New One commence without sending
you alone, to remind you that at this season
of good wishes, you are one of the first of
my absent friends for whose face I find my-
self, longing to look upon, & whom I wd. fain
give a hearty shake of the hand, & wish "A
Happy New Year" Altho' that in your case is
quite a work of supererogation, for you are al-
ways happy; there is no rigorous combination
of disagreeable circumstances that can depress
you when one knows of your firm elastic
spirit - Witness you, little die in the Medicine
College; all alone, hot hard coal fire in a dirty
foothold, surrounded by dead & decaying vegetable
matter, making no money, working like a dog,
no pretty wife, no sweet little ones - and yet
could you be as happy as those.

Why Doctor I miss your smiling face
I miss your warm welcome, which told me off
hand that you were glad to see me - in fact

my dear friend I miss you sadly. I am but
gone to Cincinnati, so that in fact I have no one
now to talk with about plants, or country ram-
bles, or the arts or sciences that refine life.

Next month will I hope bring you to
New York, & then we will have high times.

Sorry today I have not called upon Mr Coary
shall do it before I am many days older.

All friends are well at the Seabrooks, poor
Halcyon & brighten obliges to go home on acct
of palpitation of the heart, I found laid up with
a sprained ankle, bonny as tall & interesting
as ever; Langdon ~~is~~ decided in manner &
conversation & has great admiration of the fair
sex. Miss Ethelinda as usual & as
fashionable, says she has lately discovered a
secret attachment of Langdon's for herself, which
the modest youth feared to disclose. Mr Phelps
& wife in statu quo - pray what is that.
Miss Emma will & quite Gladly like joining
over the loss of Bishop "Dear Mantus".

Dr Torrey I have met once in the street
since I saw you last - the sight of him re-
-minded me of that pleasant breakfast at his

house, for which I was indebted to you, when all
we good men met from the ends of the earth
to exchange knowledge & enjoy each others so-
-ciety - Have you rec'd any tidings of brother
Mar Johanni - He hath not yet writ to me
of his journeyings.

A Gratitude from Boston
promised me on his return to remember me to
the Grays; for fear of failure will you
solicit when you see them to give my re-
-gards to them & wish them "A happy New Year"

Now Doctor for the P. S. Is there even a
vacant berth of a Professorship in the Univer-
-sity of Harvard, if so I can name an Incumbent
Let me know at once & he will come on post haste
& fill it up immediately - Time presses & I must
bid you good bye - Wishing you "A happy New
Year" and many of them & may we spend some
of them together in improving & affectionate
intercourse. God bless you my dear friend &
may He also bless me & make me a better man.

Your attached friend

James D. Dabney

Mother's Anna & Stevenson

would send their regards if they knew of my writing

The Group & Mrs. C. Weston after the opening of you in most
friendly terms - in fact I the same of fear I have found
a mine in you in how young heart affections -
I thank you on the outside of my letter my out-
stand of some not for the sake of discharging but
think you may see the purpose of the matter.
Kisses from my dear brother Sam.

Professor A. A. Gray.
Harvard University
Cambridge
Massachusetts

